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June 30, 2020

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING AND FEDEX**

Ms. Jocelyn Boyd  
Chief Clerk and Administrator  
South Carolina Public Service Commission  
101 Executive Center Dr., Suite 100  
Columbia, SC 29210

**Re: Docket No. 2020-4-G**

Dear Ms. Boyd:

Enclosed please find the Settlement Testimony of MaryBeth Tomlinson filed in the above-captioned docket.

A hard copy of this filing is being provided via FedEx to both the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff and the Public Service Commission of South Carolina.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter. If you have any questions regarding this filing, you may reach me at the number shown above.

Sincerely,

/s/ Melinda L. McGrath  
Melinda L. McGrath

MLM/sko

cc: ORS  
Carri Grube Lybarker  
Bruce Barkley  
Pia Powers

**Before the  
Public Service Commission of South  
Carolina**

**Docket No. 2020-4-G**

**Annual Review of Purchased Gas Adjustment and  
Gas Purchasing Policies of Piedmont Natural Gas Company,  
Inc.**

**Settlement Testimony  
Of  
MaryBeth Tomlinson  
On Behalf Of  
Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc.**

1 **Q. Ms. Tomlinson, please state your name, business address, and**  
2 **occupation.**

3 A. My name is MaryBeth Tomlinson. My business address is 4720 Piedmont  
4 Row Drive, Charlotte, North Carolina, and I am employed as Manager of  
5 Gas Accounting at Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (“Piedmont” or the  
6 “Company”).

7 **Q. Are you the same MaryBeth Tomlinson who pre-filed direct testimony**  
8 **and exhibits in this docket on June 2, 2020?**

9 A. Yes, I am.

10 **Q. What is the purpose of your settlement testimony in this proceeding?**

11 A. I will discuss and offer testimony in support of the Settlement Agreement  
12 reached by the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”) and  
13 Piedmont (collectively, the “Parties”) in the Annual Review of Purchased  
14 Gas Adjustment and Gas Purchasing Policies of Piedmont proceeding in this  
15 docket.

16 **Q. Please describe the Settlement Agreement reached by the Parties and**  
17 **filed with the Commission on June 30, 2020.**

18 A. The Settlement Agreement affirms the Parties concurrence that:

- 19 1) Piedmont’s gas purchasing policies and practices from April 1, 2019  
20 through March 31, 2020 (“Review Period”), were reasonable and prudent;  
21 2) Piedmont properly adhered to the gas cost recovery provisions of its gas  
22 tariff and relevant Commission orders during the Review Period;

1 3) Piedmont managed its hedging program during the Review Period in a  
2 reasonable and prudent manner consistent with Commission orders; and

3 4) The end-of-period balances for Piedmont's hedging and deferred gas  
4 cost accounts are those reflected in my pre-filed direct testimony and  
5 exhibits.

6 **Q. Is it the opinion of Piedmont that the Commission's approval of the**  
7 **Settlement Agreement is in the interest of Piedmont and the public**  
8 **interest?**

9 A. Yes. Following extensive review, examination, and discussions between  
10 Piedmont and the ORS, both Parties agreed to each of the matters stipulated  
11 above. The Settlement is offered by all Parties as a fair, reasonable, and full  
12 resolution of all issues in this proceeding as signified by both Parties being  
13 signatories to the Settlement Agreement. Piedmont believes that the  
14 Settlement Agreement reached by the Parties in this docket addresses the  
15 concerns of the using and consuming public while preserving the financial  
16 integrity of Piedmont.

17 **Q. What is your recommendation to the Commission with respect to the**  
18 **Settlement Agreement?**

19 A. Piedmont recommends that the Commission approve the Settlement  
20 Agreement as filed in this proceeding.

21 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

22 A. Yes it does.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the attached is being served this date upon all of the parties to this docket electronically or by depositing a copy of the same in the United States Mail, First Class Postage Prepaid, at the addresses contained in the official service list in this proceeding.

This the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020.

/s/ Sloane K. O'Hare

Sloane K. O'Hare